SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 7, 11, 12, 25-28, 30, 31 and 33-36.

Please amend claims 1 and 4 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An isolated non-murine mammalian pluripotential embryonic stem cell which can:

(a) be maintained on feeder layers for at least 20 passages; and

(b) give rise to embryoid bodies and multiple differentiated cell phenotypes in monolayer culture[.], wherein said cell has all the essential characteristics of a cell derived from a primordial germ cell by the process of: (1) culturing a non-murine mammalian primordial germ cell in a composition comprising basic fibroblast growth factor, leukemia inhibitory factor, membrane associated steel factor, and soluble steel factor; (2) selecting cells that have characteristics (a) and (b) above, and (3) isolating said non-murine pluripotential cell.

4. (Amended) An isolated human pluripotential embryonic stem cell which can:

(a) be maintained on feeder layers for at least 20 passages; and

(b) give rise to embryoid bodies and multiple differentiated cell phenotypes in monolayer culture[.], wherein said cell has all the essential characteristics of a cell derived from a primordial germ cell by the process of: (1) culturing a human primordial germ cell in a composition comprising basic fibroblast growth factor, leukemia inhibitory factor, membrane associated steel factor, and soluble steel factor; (2) selecting cells that have characteristics (a) and (b) above, and (3) isolating said human pluripotential cell.